Fraternity & Sorority Life Operational Policies

I. Alcohol Policy

- The University of Cincinnati implements and enforces the laws of the state of Ohio as stated in the Ohio Revised Code. As permitted by law individual students, faculty and/or staff may purchase, possess and/or consume beer or intoxicating liquor on campus at certain campus events, in designated campus facilities and in campus facilities having permits issued by the Ohio department of liquor control.

Restrictions in the Ohio Revised Code include the following:

- It is unlawful for a person under 21 years of age to purchase, consume, possess, or transport any beer or intoxicating liquor.
- It is unlawful to knowingly and falsely misrepresent one’s age to obtain alcoholic beverages and/or to misrepresent that another is of legal age for such purpose.
- It is unlawful to have in one/s possession in a public place without a permit an open container of beer or intoxicating liquor.
- It is unlawful to possess an open container and/or consume any beer or intoxicating liquor in a motor vehicle.
- It is unlawful to serve, distribute beer and/or intoxicating liquor to a minor.

- Policies related to campus events where alcohol is served and/or sold can be found in the university Revised Code, Section 3361:10-17-07.
II. Chapter Operations

- Chapter Officer Elections and Transitions: All elected and appointed chapter officers/positions are strongly encouraged to be installed by January 1 in order to participate in chapter officer trainings facilitated by the Fraternity & Sorority Life office in January/February.

- Membership Roster Additions/Deletions
  - Organizations are responsible for maintaining an accurate roster. The president and/or their designee will update their chapter roster on Roster Day two times each semester. Chapters may not edit the roster during the final examination period. Deletions may be made under the following conditions.
    - Member/new member is no longer a UC student.
    - Member/new member has been separated from the chapter. If deemed necessary, this will be verified by the chapter advisor and/or the local or inter/national organization.
    - Member/new member has graduated from the University.

III. Conduct Rights and Responsibilities

- The Student Code of Conduct applies to student conduct that occurs on campus or on university owned, leased, or controlled premises. University campuses include university of Cincinnati uptown campus, UC Blue Ash, Clermont college and UC east – UC Clermont college.

- The SCOC also applies to off-campus conduct when the behavior or the presence of a student or student organization in the university’s sole judgment, impairs, obstructs, or interferes with the mission or process or functions of the university. When determining whether the university has jurisdiction to address off-campus, student and student organizational misconduct factors include, but are not limited to the following:
  - Whether the student was acting as a representative of the university;
  - The seriousness of the offense that occurred;
  - Inquiries to students or others;
  - The extent of danger posed to the community;
  - Whether a student organization was involved;
  - Where the incident could result in a felony charge; or
  - Whether weapons, drugs, or alcohol were involved.

- The full Student Code of Conduct can be found on the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards’ website at [https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/conduct/student-code-of-conduct.html](https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/conduct/student-code-of-conduct.html).

IV. Controlled Substances

- The Student Code of Conduct prohibits drug/narcotic use in the policies outlined below. Violations include:
  - **Section (C)(2)(g), Drugs or narcotics:** Uses, manufactures, distributes, buys, sells, offers for sale, or possesses illegal drugs, narcotics, drug paraphernalia, or prescription medication.
  - **Section (C)(3)(aa), Violation of federal, state, or local law:** Violation of any federal, state, or local law where the effect is interference with university activities or an identifiable individual’s university work or academic activities.

- Additional information can be found in the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act Annual (EDGAR Part 86) Notification located on the website for the Student Wellness Center ([https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/wellness/data-reports.html](https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/wellness/data-reports.html)).
V. Discriminatory Harassment Policy

- It is a fundamental policy of the University of Cincinnati that discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sex orientation, disability, status as disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era, or age shall not be practiced in any of its activities. Discriminatory harassment is a form of discrimination, and thus violates the University’s policy against discrimination.

- Additional information on the university’s Discriminatory Harassment Policy can be found by visiting the website for the Office of Equity and Inclusion (https://www.uc.edu/inclusion.html).

VI. Events

- Event Approval:
  - Registered student organizations are required to register all dry events (to include classroom space requests and fundraisers) seven (7) business days before they are scheduled to occur.
  - BYOB Events where alcohol is being served must be submitted in CampusLINK at least 14 business days prior to the event along with all corresponding documents (3rd Party Vendor Forms, Guest Lists, etc.). Fraternity & Sorority Life will approve at least seven days in advance only when the chapter advisor, UCPD, Alcohol Beverage Control, and vendor have approved the registration form.
  - 3rd Party Vendor events where alcohol is being served, must be submitted in CampusLINK at least 21 business days prior to the event along with all corresponding documents (3rd Party Vendor Forms, Guest Lists, etc.).
  - Events held at chapter houses that do not require security, vendors, Facility Services or Parking and Transportation services that a chapter would like placed on the Fraternity & Sorority Life calendar must be submitted 10 days prior to the event. Large-scale events on campus that invite non-members should be communicated to UCPD by sending an email to lori.cronin@uc.edu. The email should include date, time, place, and anticipated attendance.

  **Events will only be approved** if the organization is current with the following:
  - Greek related forms/requirements (roster updates, chapter advisor, intake forms, financial obligations, etc.).
  - Registration of organization on CampusLINK.
  - Respective Council requirements (dues and in good standing).
  - In good standing with the University Bursars’ Office.
  - Delayed documents as a result of conduct outcomes.

- Philanthropy Events/Service Projects
  - Chapters can submit philanthropy and service events to be listed on the community CrowdChange page.
  - NPHC organizations shall abide by the **NPHC Calendar Agreement**.

VII. Expansion/Extension of New Greek Organizations

- To insure that fraternities and sororities desiring to be registered at UC possess those qualifications deemed necessary for their success and for the continued health of the UC FSL community, the Fraternity and Sorority Life Expansion & Re-Activation Policy must be followed.

- In overseeing the process of orderly expansion, there must be substantial evidence of the ability of the proposed organization to: positively contribute to the UC FSL community; show potential for recruiting, growth and success; and to conduct itself in a manner consistent with state laws, University, Council, and Fraternity & Sorority Life policies and procedures.
Organizations wishing to affiliate with the Interfraternity Council or the Panhellenic Council must adhere to those councils’ planned expansion process, which is in place to ensure success for organizations seeking to colonize a new chapter at UC.

This policy can be found on the Fraternity and Sorority Life website.

VIII. Hazing Policy
- The University of Cincinnati prohibits hazing in student organizations, and is consistent with state law.
- Consistent with sections 2307.44 and 2903.31 of the Ohio Revised Code, the following hazing policy shall be adopted by the university. The policy shall be complied with by all students, recognized student organizations, university advisors, and any other person or group where the activity involving hazing, whether on or off campus, may affect or interfere with the lawful function of the university.
  - The laws of the state of Ohio concerning hazing shall be observed.
  - Hazing shall be defined as participating in or allowing any or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act that creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. A forced or coerced activity shall also be considered hazing when the initiation or admission into, or continued affiliation with, a university organization is directly or indirectly conditional upon performing that activity. In no event shall the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity serve as a defense in cases of hazing.
  - Actions and activities which are explicitly prohibited include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
    - Any activity that creates a substantial risk of physical or mental harm to the individual;
    - Paddling, beating, or hitting individuals;
    - Wearing anything designed to be degrading or to cause discomfort;
    - Depriving individuals of the opportunity for obtaining a minimum of six hours of sleep per day, proper and adequate means, or access to means, of maintaining body cleanliness;
    - Activities that interfere with an individual’s academic efforts by causing exhaustion, or loss of reasonable study time;
    - Use of drugs;
    - Eating or drinking foreign or unusual substances, including alcohol or anything an individual chooses not to eat or drink;
    - Having any object or substance thrown at, poured on, attached to or otherwise applied to the bodies of individuals;
    - Any activity or game that makes an individual the object of amusement, ridicule, or intimidation or which cause the individual to be degraded or humiliated;
    - Kidnapping, transporting and/or stranding anyone;
    - Interrogations or audible stress such as yelling or loud noises;
    - Activities which are illegal such as theft or public indecency;
    - Activities which are contrary to the policies and rules of the university;

In compliance with rule 3361:10-17-02 of the Administrative Code, the office of student activities and leadership development, as well as the office of fraternity and sorority life, shall report possible violations of the state hazing laws to civil authorities for prosecution. Hazing is a criminal offense in Ohio.

Additional information about the Hazing Policy can be found on the website of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority life (https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/fraternity-sorority-life.html), as well as in the Student Code of Conduct.
IX. Membership Recruitment/Intake

- **For chapters that participate in recruitment:**
  - To support students’ academic success, all pledging, initiation meetings, activities and ceremonies will cease from the day before Thanksgiving through the first week prior to the spring semester.
  - For the spring semester, all activities and ceremonies must cease prior to April 24, through the last day of finals.
  - Recognizing that some inter/national organizations require the first semester GPA in order to initiate, an “exception letter” must be submitted to Fraternity & Sorority Life to allow activities during this time.
    - Letters shall be received no later than October 1, and March 1, each year from the inter/headquarters requesting an exemption for the respective semester.
  - CPC/IFC New Member Welcome: All CPC new members are required to attend the new member welcome during the fall semester on **Sunday, September 22nd**.

- **NPHC/MGC Membership Intake Process (MIP) and New Member Presentation**
  - **NPHC So You Wanna Be Greek pt. 1 & 2:** Fraternity & Sorority Life, in conjunction with the NPHC of UC, will sponsor a semester informational session called So You Wanna Be Greek, to provide important information to students. Two Meet the Greeks sessions will be offered during the Fall and Spring semesters. These sessions will occur on **Wednesday, August 28, 2019 and Wednesday, January 22, 2020**.
  - **Membership Intake Process/New Member Presentation** policies will be followed in accordance with Fraternity & Sorority Life policies.
  - Organizations that conduct MIP must complete intake processes on or before **Friday, November 22nd 2019 @ 8:00pm** for the Fall semester and **Friday, March 27th 2020 @ 8:00pm** for the Spring semester.
  - **New member presentations** must happen by **Friday, November 22nd 2019 @ 8:00pm** for the Fall semester and **Friday, March 27th 2020 @ 8:00pm** for the Spring semester. All members participating in MIP must visibly display organizational paraphernalia by this date. Any exceptions will be made based on information presented to the Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life.
  - **NPHC/MGC New Member Orientation:** All NPHC/MGC new members are required to attend the new member orientation within the semester of their initiation. **Fall- Sunday, November 4th, 2019 @ 5pm; Spring – Monday, April 20th, 2020 @ 5pm.**
  - Membership selection for NPHC/MGC is prohibited during the summer months.

- **CPC Informal Recruitment**
  - CPC affiliated organizations currently utilizing informal recruitment as their primary recruitment process: Phi Sigma Rho Sorority, Inc.
  - **Informal Recruitment policies** will be followed in accordance with Fraternity & Sorority Life policies.
  - **CPC organizations must schedule a meeting with the CPC advisor prior to the start of any intake/interest/informational meetings.**
  - To support students’ academic success, all pledging, initiation meetings, activities and ceremonies will cease from the day before Thanksgiving through the first week prior to the spring semester.
  - For the spring semester, all activities and ceremonies must cease prior to April 24, through the last day of finals.
    - Recognizing that some inter/national organizations require the first semester GPA in order to initiate, an “exception letter” must be submitted to Fraternity & Sorority Life to allow activities during this time.
  - CPC New Member Welcome: All CPC new members are required to attend the new member welcome during the fall semester on **Sunday, September 22nd at 5pm.**
  - Informal Recruitment for CPC is prohibited during the summer months.
X. New Member Education Policy

- All social Greek-lettered organizations on campus must complete the New Member education Planning Form (NME Plan) and abide by the New Member Education Policy (Policy). No new member activities may commence before the NME Plan has been reviewed and approved by FSL.
- NME Plans are limited to no more than eight weeks. The new member period may only extend beyond eight weeks if approved by the chapter’s national headquarters and FSL.
- Chapters may find a copy of the form, as well as the full policy, at https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/fraternity-sorority-life/policies-and-resources.html.

XI. Sexual Misconduct Policy

- The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life holds all organizations and members responsible for abiding by the university’s Sexual Misconduct Policy. It is the policy of the University of Cincinnati that no member of the university community may sexually harass another. Anyone who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension or termination. The full Sexual Misconduct Policy can be found on the Fraternity and Sorority Life website, as well as the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards website.

XII. Travel Policy

- Traveling for any purpose, regardless of distance from campus, as an organization, or for members traveling on behalf of the organization, must register the travel as an event, in accordance with our FSL Event Policy.
- For more information, including the full policy, see the Community Guidelines.

XIII. Reminders

- Per SALD guidelines for registered student organizations, only UC students may be members of UC student organizations. Only undergraduate, matriculating students registered for at least six (6) credit hours are allowed to be members of social Greek-lettered organizations.
- All fraternities and sororities under the FSL umbrella must adhere to the Community Guidelines in all chapter operations. Each chapter president receives a copy of the Community Guidelines at the first Presidents’ Cabinet of each semester. The Community Guidelines are also available on the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life’s website.